

## **Paths Committee Meeting Notes**

**April 19, 2016**

**Members attending:** Marc Gamble, Joplin James, Rocco Antinozzi, Kevin Boehmke

**Staff attending:** Dean Pierce

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Marc Gamble at 7:07 pm.

**Approval of Agenda:** By consensus, the agenda was considered approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** Joplin James moved that the minutes for the March meeting be approved. Kevin Boehmke seconded. The minutes were approved.

**Dog Park:** Marc Gamble reported on a meeting held concerning the dog park. As a result of the meeting, plans are being made to amend the Town's parking ordinance to address parking in the area of the Park. Joe Colangelo has asked if the Paths Committee might take a formal position on the plan. Joplin James moved that the Paths Committee support the proposal to amend the parking ordinance to prohibit parking along Harbor Road near the dog park. The motion was seconded by Rocco Antinozzi. After brief discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

**Letter concerning Kwiniaska project:** Marc Gamble explained that the committee had previously authorized him to prepare a letter concerning the residential development project proposed for a portion of the Kwiniaska golf course. He has prepared a draft and is looking for comments. Kevin Boehmke suggested that the wording be changed to specify that the developer is responsible for the cost of extending the path south to the terminus of the current path. Others agreed.

Kevin also suggested that the word "alternative" be changed to "additional" to express the view that two means of access would be preferred. The group also discussed whether the letter should call on the developer to extend the path to the north. Marc opined that the path proposed by the developer (and the link to the existing terminus on Webster Road) would be the first step in a long term plan to create a connection with South Burlington. The letter will mention this desire as a guide to the DRB and future developers.

**Bay Road/Railroad Overpass:** Marc Gamble mentioned his communications with Kate Lalley and Susan Grasso regarding the need to build awareness of the pilot project. As a result, Kate and Susan provided Marc with text for an article to run in the Shelburne News. Marc noted that the Shelburne News has already published an article on the topic, so the text might go unused. Dean Pierce asked if perhaps the text could be repurposed as a letter to the editor. Later Marc indicated that is possible, particularly if the proposal starts to generate controversy.

Marc also mentioned the Feedback form recently posted on the Town's web site. The link to the form is on the page describing the pilot project. Marc indicated he was initially concerned the form would generate negative comments. But based on a log supplied by Ann Janda, many of the comments are positive. Marc explained that he and Ann also have discussed how the success of the pilot project might be defined. Ann will be seeking input on the issue from Sai Sarapelli of the Regional Planning Commission. Marc also shared information he obtained from the Police department regarding accidents in the vicinity of the overpass. According to the document he obtained, there have been two police reports filed in roughly six years. Marc wondered if he might obtain additional information about the incidents. Dean suggested Marc contact Jim Mack, who is the police department data manager.

Next, Marc reported on news he received from the Town Manager that the Selectboard recently identified Bay road as a "high priority." Marc feels that this decision by the Selectboard should increase the chances that Bay Road will be improved. In Marc's view Bay Road has many little problems that together add up to a big problem. Rocco Antinozzi mentioned flooding problems in the area and suggested the possibility of constructing a slightly elevated path along Bay Road to address both transportation and flooding issues. Rocco thinks this approach might help "sell" the project. Dean Pierce commented on some of the technical constraints affecting such a proposal. Marc noted some of the properties that might be affected by such a project.

**Farmers market crosswalk:** According to Marc Gamble, Joe Colangelo has indicated that the crosswalk to be located east of the Parade Ground (site of the Farmers Market) will be constructed this spring. When pressed for details, Joe signaled it would be completed before opening of the Farmers Market (and possibly as early as April 24).

**Stop signs along Webster Road bike path.** Owing to Greg Levine's absence, discussion of this topic was limited. Marc Gamble noted that he has been hoping that Greg would prepare and send an email to Local Motion and/or the Regional Planning Commission seeking feedback on the issue. Marc is not aware of any such email.

**"Grant Watch."** Marc Gamble explained that his interest in tracking potential grant opportunities stems in part from comments made by the Chair of the Selectboard. The Chair's comments were offered when the Paths Committee sought support from the Selectboard for a grant application in 2015. At the time, the Chair has expressed a desire to be informed of

potential grant applications well in advance of requests for support. Marc intends to research grant deadlines and send that information to the Chair along with a note indicating when the committee might wish to submit a grant application.

**Field Trip ideas.** Marc Gamble solicited suggestions for future committee field trips. His own preference is to visit sites that illustrate facilities that have been built (in Shelburne or elsewhere) as a result of bylaw requirements (AKA a “Bylaw tour”). Rocco Antinozzi suggested planning such a tour by using Google Earth and Google Streetview images. Joplin James suggested creating a list of potential Field trip sites. He went on to express interest in mapping trails on town properties, such as the parcel north of Boulder Hill. In that vein, Marc opined that he is somewhat surprised there isn’t greater demand for more paths expressed by residents of neighborhoods east of Route 7, including Boulder Hill. Rocco voiced support for establishing a path connection between the Longmeadow and the path that extends north from Boulder Hill. He and others agree use of the path system would increase if this gap is bridged.

**Preview of upcoming meeting.** Marc Gamble mentioned that Jason van Dreische of Local Motion has been invited to attend the May meeting. He will be joined by one other member of Local Motion’s staff, someone hired to coordinate with non urban communities. The purpose of the visit is to build connections and share information.

**Other.** Dean Pierce mentioned that the Planning Commission is in the process of setting work priorities for 2016-2017. At the Commission’s most recent meeting, considerable support was expressed for expanding bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

Adjournment. Kevin Boehmke moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Rocco Antinozzi seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:05.